

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 11, 2008

TO: Mr. Guy Perrotti, Director
Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities

FROM: Daniese McMullin-Powell, Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: Personal Attendant Services (PAS) Service Specifications

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed the Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities' final Personal Attendant Services (PAS) Service Specifications (February 26, 2008). As you know, SCPD commented on a pre-publication draft of the PAS Service Specifications in February 2008. The Division then responded to the Council's commentary through a February 27, 2008 memorandum.

The Division adopted many edits prompted by the commentary. This resulted in approximately twenty-seven (27) amendments. Some positive highlights include the following: 1) adoption of statutory references to "basic" and "ancillary" services; 2) clarification that an initial service site can be a non-home environment; 3) deletion of a requirement of "subjection to counseling" and "hiring an attendant on their own" if a consumer exhausts attendants offered by an agency; 4) requirement that a provider agency offer a grievance system; and 5) requirement that consumer satisfaction surveys be shared with DSAAPD. Some of the less positive aspects of the final version of the PAS service specifications include the following: 1) lack of a DSAAPD-sponsored grievance system; and 2) denial of eligibility to persons with solely mental impairments.

SCPD appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with the Division and thanks DSAAPD for favorably considering most of the Council's comments.

cc: Ms. Zel Cannon
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council

Dsaapd specs ty 4-11-08